

CLAIMS:

1. A biodegradable, breathable film comprising:  
about 30 percent to about 70 percent by weight of a biodegradable copolyester; and  
5 about 70 percent to about 30 percent by weight of a filler;  
wherein the film is stretched in at least a monoaxial direction to achieve a WVTR of  
at least about 800 grams per square meter per 24 hours.

2. The film of Claim 1, which is stretched in a monoaxial direction so as to obtain a  
10 machine direction stretch ratio of from about 2x to about 5x.

3. The film of Claim 1, which is stretched biaxially.

4. The film of Claim 3, which is stretched so as to obtain a cross-machine direction  
15 stretch ratio of from about 1x by 1x to about 3x by 3x.

5. The film of Claim 1, wherein the biodegradable copolyester comprises a copolyester  
of aliphatic/aromatic acids.

20 6. The film of Claim 1, wherein the filler is calcium carbonate.

7. The film of Claim 1, wherein the filler is a particulate material having an average  
particle size in the range of from about 0.1 to about 7 micrometers.

25 8. The film of Claim 1, wherein the filler is a particulate material having an average  
particle size in the range of from about 0.8 to about 2.6 micrometers.

9. The film of Claim 1, which further comprises a compatibilizer.

10. The film of Claim 9, wherein the compatibilizer is selected from the group consisting of fatty acids, fatty acid amides, silane compounds and alkyl titanates.

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11. The film of Claim 9, wherein the compatibilizer comprises from about 0.02 weight percent to about 2 weight percent of the film.

12. The film of Claim 1, which comprises from about 40 percent to about 55 percent by  
10 weight of the biodegradable copolyester and from about 45 percent to about 60 percent by weight of the filler.

13. The film of Claim 1, which has a water vapor transmission rate of greater than about 1900 grams per square meter per 24 hours.

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14. The film of Claim 12, further comprising at least one additional layer bonded thereto.

15. A disposable article of manufacture comprising a film according to Claim 1.

20 16. The disposable article of Claim 15, which is selected from the group consisting of medical products, protective garments and personal care absorbent articles.

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17. A process for manufacturing a biodegradable and breathable film, comprising the steps of:

melt blending from about 30 percent to about 70 percent by weight of a biodegradable copolyester and from about 70 percent to about 30 percent by weight of a filler to form a resin;

film forming the resin to form a film; and

stretching the film in at least a monoaxial direction so as to achieve a water vapor transmission rate of at least 800 grams per square meter per 24 hours.

18. The process of Claim 17, further including the step of stretching the film in a biaxial direction.

19. The process of Claim 17 wherein the inorganic filler is calcium carbonate.

20. The process of Claim 17 wherein the biodegradable copolyester comprises a copolyester of aliphatic/aromatic acids.

21. A biodegradable and breathable film made by the process of Claim 17.